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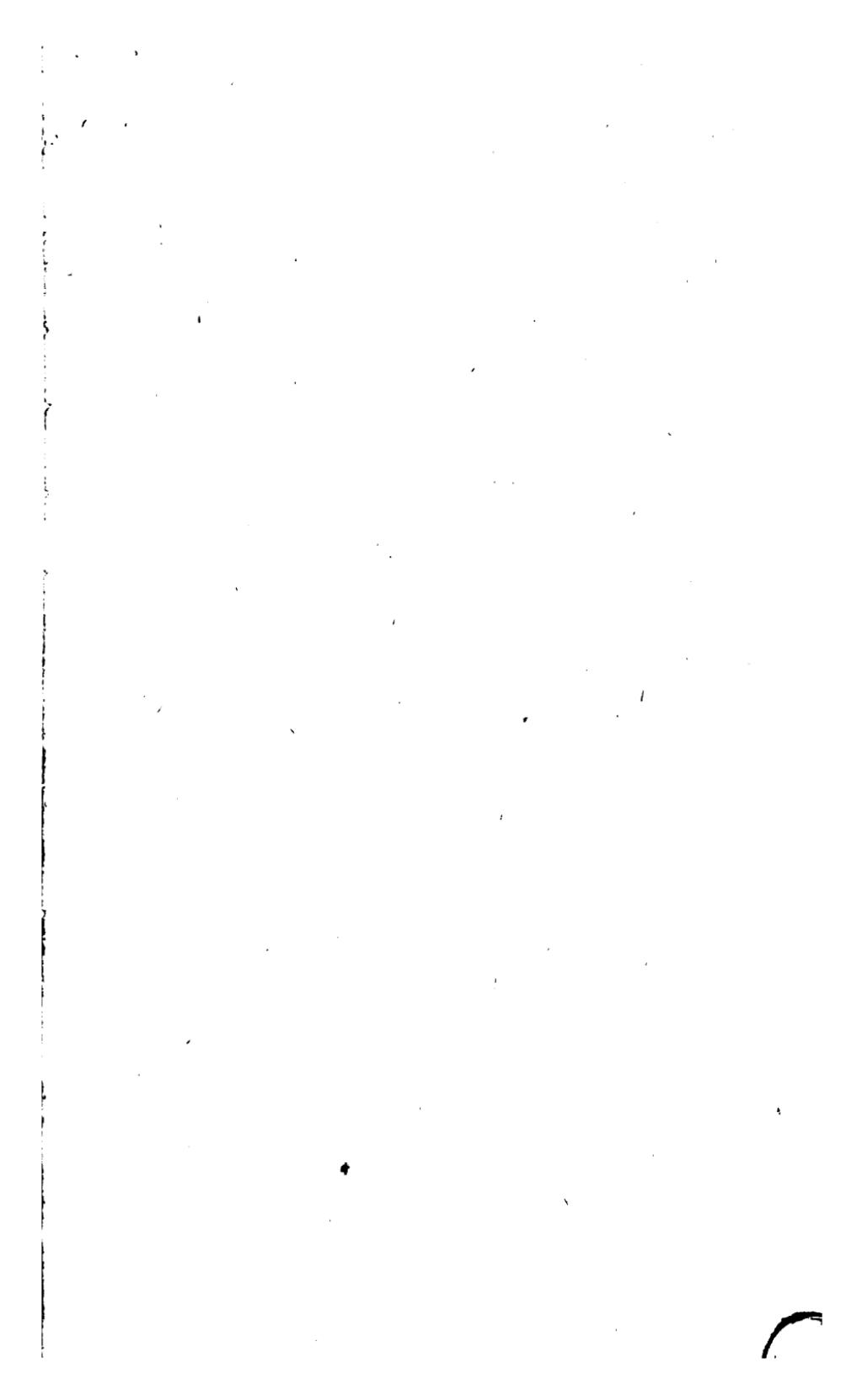


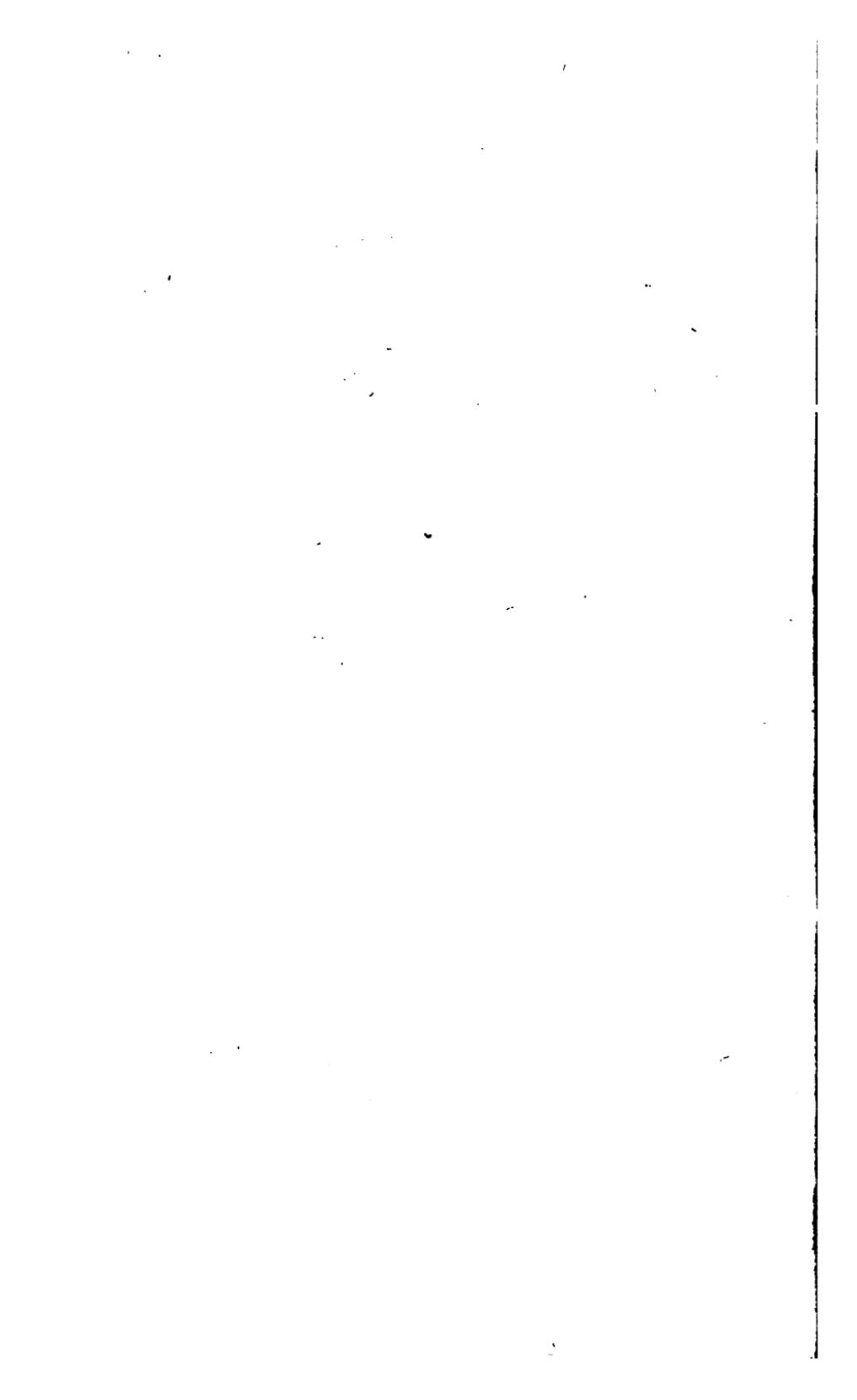
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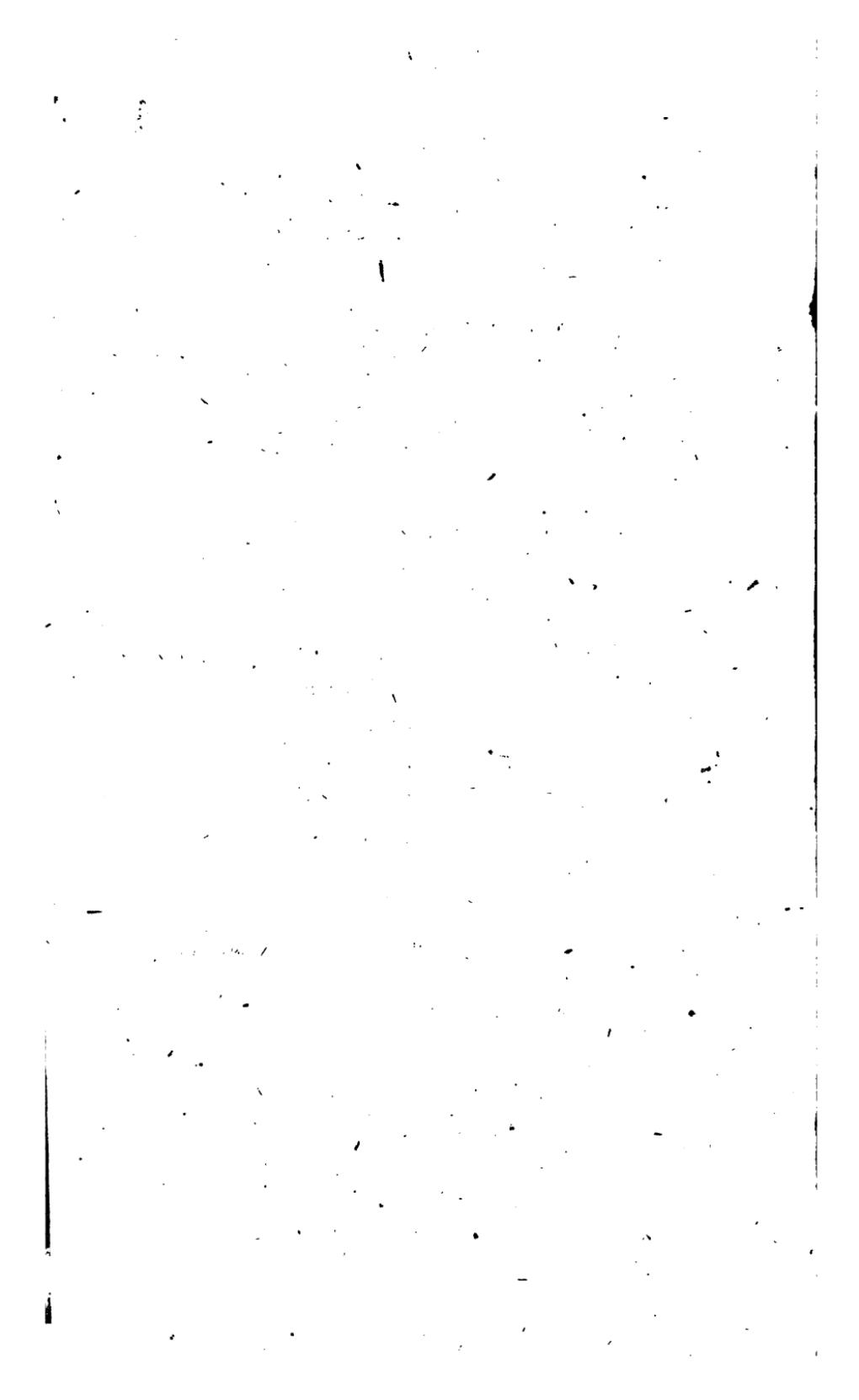
IN FAVOR OF THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE

MONROE DOCTRINE,

CONTAINED IN HIS ANNUAL MESSAGE, IN 1823;

*And its application to our relations with our Sister Republic
of Mexico, in 1864.*

New-Orleans :
PRINTED AT THE ERA BOOK AND JOB OFFICE.
1864.



ARGUMENTS

IN FAVOR OF THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE MONROE DOCTRINE,

CONTAINED IN HIS ANNUAL MESSAGE IN 1823,

*And its application to our relations with our Sister Republic of Mexico,
in 1864.*

The following articles were written and dedicated to Colonel FRANCISCO N. DE BORDON, President of the D. C. M. C. D. C., and composed as Prize Essays, Defending the Monroe Doctrine. A Committee of Five was appointed by the Club, to determine upon the merits of each one; and the one numbered A was awarded the prize of a Gold Medal, presented by the President of the Club.

COMMITTEE OF FIVE.

COL. FRANCISCO N. DE BORDON,
DR. H. G. BATES.
DR. HUTCHINSON,
CAPT. WHITTIER,
CAPT. P. H. LANGSTAFF.

A.

To the President and Members of the D. C. M. C. D. C.

GENTLEMEN—Quackenboss, in his History of America, writes and informs us, that; "The South American Provinces, which from the time of Pizarro had remained subject to the Spanish Crown, early in the present century followed the example of the North American Colonies, asserting their Independence, and finally establishing it by force of arms.

" While the struggle was pending, Clay, who sympathized deeply with the oppressed provinces, strove, with his transcendent eloquence, to induce Congress to recognize their independence. His efforts at first failed, as Congress distrusted their success; but his speeches were read at the head of the Patriot armies, and encouraged them to persevere in their struggle for liberty. At length, in March, 1822, the bill was passed with but one dissenting voice. The President, Monroe, heartily joined in their recognition of independence; and the following year, 1823, went so far as to declare in his Message, that 'The American Continents

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were thenceforth not to be considered as subjects for future colonization by any European Power.' "

This is the famous Monroe doctrine which has since been advocated by many of our countrymen, and which has lately been snubbed by the present Cabinet at Washington. Let us then examine the principles and events which are involved, and operating in the grand design of preserving and protecting American Continents and American Republics from European complications and oppressions. The American mind having become so illustrious, since it first was quickened into life and being, as to have eclipsed all former intelligences and ideas, at once repudiated the fallacies and falsities—the bigotries and perversities—the aristocracies and tyrannies---and the spirit of ambition and conquest which impelled to unjust actions the governments of Europe.

The Americans, smarting under these obnoxious outrages upon the God-like principles of universal Freedom and Equity, pressed forward under the banner of civilization, human rights, freedom, justice and liberty, and established the independence of the American people.

The American mind, educated to investigate truths, new and old---and willing to receive impressions of facts, regardless of any preconceived notions---and prompt to act whenever the occasion demanded---became omnipresent and omniscient—the first in adventure, in science, in religion, in politics and ethnography. The new continent became ablaze with the splendor and newness of her designs and executions, and the old continent stood aghast at the contemplation of her magnificent and glorious future—a future, destined to overthrow monarchies and govern the world. Hence arose the grand idea of Monroe, *Noli Tangere*—touch not—regarding the unity and government of the American continent, and as applied to the governments of Europe.

President Monroe, viewing and contemplating the geographic and physiologic vastness of this country—its relation to all the nations of the globe---and the compound dissimilar nature of its social elements, plainly saw that the seeds of ambition, disunion and discontent would be planted in its soil, which, at no distant day, would sprout up, and bear distasteful flowers and fruits. He, also with prophetic view saw that the crowned heads of Europe would not fail to take advantage, whenever a good opportunity presented, and intermeddle with our affairs ; for they yearned after her fertile territory and the richness of her mines. He therefore became suspicious and jealous of Imperial presence upon these continents, and resentful of Imperial bigotry, tyranny and outrage, which caused him to disown, and prevent, by all possible means, any encroachments of monarchy upon this side the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans.

This great American statesman understood full well, that he had only to direct the American mind, in approaching the great question of self-preservation, and show them how to establish and combine American Republics under the glorious flag of Freedom, Justice and truth, in opposition to that of outrage and folly, supported by Kings and Emperors.

The idea of his magnificent design radiated from the capitol at Washington ; it thrilled and throbbed the gigantic hearts of all the American Continents. Europe stood aback, horrified at the energetic and defiant manner which accompanied its delivery from the rostrum, and at the anti-imperial sweep it would make, when quickened into action.

Nearly two generations have lived and died since its birth ; and the vital question of to-day is, can the Idea of Monroe live ? The answer is in the womb of time ; its life or death to be determined when the question of monarchy in Mexico shall be ventilated by Napoleon and Maximilian, on the one side, and by Mexicans and Americans on the other. The former, acting as a duality, believing that our inter-ecclie war will obliterate, and forever destroy the anti-monarchical principles involved in the doctrine of Monroe, has been encouraged to take advantage of our unholy war and unprecedented rebellion and test the question of its vitality, on the plea of collecting a debt, and the will of the Mexican nation. How absurd the combination, and the apology!! How insolent and tyrannical to our-sister Republic ! but there the Eagle of France disgraces, and rules over her territory, and Napoleon III. is supreme. Some of the natives, *traitors to their country*, have cowardly joined his legions, and falsified themselves before heaven and the world. Its nationality, however, can never thus be impaired or destroyed. Mexico, with her eight or nine millions, who possess the vital elements of successful warfare hidden within the recesses of her mines, will never be governed and tyrannized over by a foreign crown, while the heart of America throbs. If *Noli Tangere* of the Monroe doctrine appears to sleep under our present misfortunes, it will soon be patent to the whole world that, that sleep is not of death, but the refreshing slumber of the world-defying Hercules. Imperial France and Austria may disturb its quiet, but woe to them who shall awaken it to action ; for according to the inexorable logic of events, they will be cast down and annihilated ; shame will cover them as with the poisoned garments of Dejanira, which shall burn them with a consuming fire.

Can it be that the startling and malicious audacity of Napoleon has frightened into a deathly lethargy the cabinet at Washington ? If Seward did acutely feel the grip of the tyrannical robber, is he to act so cowardly as to resign his purse and name, and that of his country ; without an effort to save one or both ; and without an attempt to extinguish the Imperial Rascal ? If the American Government lacks the courage to defend the doctrine of Monroe, either by legislative acts, or force of arms, shame indelible will becloud the stars and stripes of America ; and the American people, impulsive and indignant, will rush to the rescue of their oppressed and down-trodden brothers in Mexico.

In the absence of instant and efficient aid, let the ardor of our speeches and the spirit of our writings be disseminated through the patriot armies, and our sympathies be made known to the distressed Mexicans ; thus will they be encouraged to persevere in their gallant struggle for justice and liberty. However, the time is not far distant when we, having triumphed over our own domestic foes,

we shall be enabled to defy the whole world, and force the cabinet at Washington, if its members decline, to employ our immense armies and navies in ejecting all foreign, hostile invaders from the soil of our sister Republic. Brave Mexicans! be not dismayed, nor falter in devotion to your country. Already I hear a still small voice whispering from afar—Remember the forlorn hope at Lucknow—and rejoice in your hearts, for America will sustain and comfort you.

Yes, fellow-citizens, you who love your country, and the immutable principles which are protected by your flag, help the oppressed but noble Mexican, in his endeavor to drive the Imperial car into the Pacific Ocean. Will you, brothers of the D.^r. M.^r. D.^r., permit the Eagles of France and Austria to displace and crow over that of America, and scream defiance to her, over the Rio-Grande? Will you permit your own rights, and the rights of your suppliant neighbor to be ignored and trampled upon, because our domestic troubles for the moment tie our hands and our feet? Will you permit the confines of American territory to be limited, because of its greatness—its richness—its variety—its vastness—its every olive? I hear one fiery, thundering NO!! and its echoes thrill through the heavens. Prostrate Mexico invites us to her aid—to her country—to her gardens—to her table—to her fertile lands—and to her rich, inexhaustable mines; and she invites us to associate with her people as brothers and sisters of one common family; to be a mutual protection from fraud—from robbery—from tyranny—from insolent priesthood—from senseless anarchy—from grinding oppression—and from territorial occupation hostile to the patriot natives, and destructive to the glorious cause of Liberty and Republicanism.

Let a monarchy be once established in Mexico, and soon would the Rio Grande be the dividing line between the French and American cannon. Austria would ship her tens of thousands of soldiers, and France would continue to increase her immense armies and transports; until one grand monarchical swell would roar, wash and splash the American Continent, and bid defiance to the conservative power of the Monroe Doctrine and American Institutions; trade and commerce would be deflected towards Europe and the West Indies—home industry would find a foreign market—the mines a foreign mint—the country a foreign yoke—towns and cities a foreign population—a foreign currency would depreciate and supersede the national coin—and the robbery of everything valuable would be the grand imperial aim to be accomplished.

A nation thus denationalized, and subdued, would become our most uncompromising and secret foe—who would ever respond to, and never cease to reiterate and reanimate the stentorian laugh that all Europe would simultaneously break out into, and which would be wafted across the ocean the moment a Monarchy in Mexico had become an established fact.

We have, therefore a sacred duty to perform, not only towards our brothers in Mexico, but to ourselves individually and collectively; and there is no enterprise that will so richly repay our endeavors, or add such brilliant lustre to our laurels as the effort that shall eventuate in the regeneration, and reorganization of Mexico.

Goaded by the actions of hateful men, in religion and politics, she has become confused, and been rendered almost impotent, by the corrupt designs and machinations of her traitorous soldiers and unworthy priests. Ground down by military and clerical despots, she makes a brother's call for help to throw off the shackles which bind her limbs, and make her powerless before her insolent invaders.

Let me, then, inspire you with courage, and determination to lend your strong arms, and stout hearts in this holy cause for Liberty. The God of War will surely lead you through the storms of tempests, and bullets, gloriously and triumphantly, and inscribe your names high on the records of fame and immortality.

Mexico, in 1864, is in a condition *worse than* the South American provinces in 1820—hence it is she requires and implores your vigorous aid to help her—once our enemy, now our friend. We have met together in deadly conflict, and each opponent has found the other worthy of his steel; hence the mutual regard and love existing between us, ever ready to express itself on proper occasions. Heenan and Sayers, after their great international battle, became the most ardent and faithful friends. Why should not America and Mexico; both having endured a harder struggle, more especially when our individual existences are menaced by a foreign foe?

The crowned heads of Europe have always sighed after territory on the beautiful and prolific territory of America; not because they had no country and kingdom of their own, but because of the immense agricultural and mineral resources inherent in her mountains and valleys—because of her extensive and magnificent topography—the variety and salubrity of her climates—because of the unrivaled advantages of her rivers, gulfs and lakes, and the singularly creative spirit and genius of her mechanics and workingmen; each and all conspired to make American territory desirable to possess in part—even a foot-hold would increase the effulgence of their crowns; and the man who can command the blades to leap from the scabbards of a hundred thousand men, dreams, and expresses the Idea, that he can successfully assassinate; and entomb the Doctrine of Monroe—that he can ride over to this Continent and establish himself in peace and plenty—give his royal friends kingly support—his soldiers and his sailors augmented fame—his language and religion a more extensive sway—his tyranny and his “The Government is Peace,” a more increased publicity and effectiveness—his French currency a greater value—and make us bow in resignation to his behests—fly at his command.

What! says he, is to prevent me from robbing Mexico of her mines, and establishing my Imperial power over the whole of her conquered territory? Shall I! Napoleon! the Nephew of my Uncle, be frightened at that *ignis fatuus* called the Monroe Doctrine, and limit the confines of my conquered territory? Who can stop my progress into California or Arizona? and, least of all, who shall obstruct my march into Texas, and Louisiana, *de facto*, a part of my disjointed kingdom? The Confederates will assist me—they will fly to my standard—and together! we

will invoke the spirits of Tiberius and Nero to irradiate the flash of our rewards upon the devoted heads of the Yankees, and pray the God of Battles to lead us in triumph to the Capitol of Louisiana, where we will dictate peace to the world.

To this end Napoleon will concentrate the soldiers of France and Austria upon Mexican soil, and incorporate all the able-bodied natives into the invading ranks of his legions. Then, having subdued the whole of Mexico, he will advance upon the American soil, flushed with victory, and prepared for the contest—the glory of Solferino will attend him—Slavery will be disentombed, and Republican institutions will be overthrown, and the *noli tangere* of Napoleon, but not of Monroe, will flourish. This uncompromising, grasping, and revolutionary monster must be destroyed in its very inception, or it will overwhelm us with disgrace and confusion. We must vitalize the doctrine of Monroe, if it be dead—or awake it, if it slumbers—and its constitutional stamina and effectiveness must be evoked in such a manner that the Eagles of France and Austria shall be most surely decapitated, and their minions be most energetically kicked into the Gulf of Mexico.

The present American Mind will never permit any other Flag than its own to wave side by side with the Mexican. If the God of Nations should, for some wise, hidden purpose, so control and direct events in Mexico as to effect a radical change in its government, which would oblige the country to be placed under the protection of a more powerful flag—to shield it from the rapacity and invasion of a foreign crown—it will become our most sacred duty to continue to consult, to advise, and to induce the Mexican patriots to transfer their beautiful Silver Star to the banner of our country—and invite to their productive lands their sisters and brothers of America, so that we may live under the protecting folds of the same Stars and Stripes, made more valuable, and brighter, by the green, white and red bars of the Mexican flag.

Her population thus changed, and augmented, would be physically and mentally improved—nourished and invigorated by the energetic American—who, by intermarriage with the beautiful, chaste, affectionate, truthful Mexican, a superior race of men and women would in a few generations spring up and supersede the present inferiority which marks the indolent native.

The “Language of Angels” would also be commendably associated with the English, and both would conspire to infuse a greater degree of knowledge, and a higher state of cultivation into the social circle. The Arts and Sciences, now known only to a few, would receive a vital impulse—and domestic happiness be more generally disseminated amongst the people—and thus, superior associations, literary acquirements, and scientific pursuits would mark the progress of the country.

The want of education, [the absence of teachers and free schools, induce ignorance and a low order of intellectuality amongst the inhabitants, who are seldom influenced by superior tastes or accomplishments, hence the beggars, the robbers, the degenerates, who throng the high-ways and by-ways throughout Mexico. A cultivated taste, and mind in blooming childhood, would beget a desire for knowl-

edge and general literature, that would destroy this low condition of society, engender a wish for higher pursuits, and infuse into them more noble aspirations.

Under the energetic, impulsive, revivifying influences of the Monroe Doctrine, this grand unity of Nations would protect, and consolidate our beautiful Flags *into one*, that will defy the whole world ; for the noble and generous deeds of Mexico, and the glory of her warriors, would perch upon the same flag-staff, and emulate those of America, marching onwards together in the illustrious future, and thus will be accomplished not only a great national, but a great moral victory.

Heaven would smile its cordial approbation upon such a duality of Republics in unity ; since it would bring in its train the mental and physical regeneration, the moral culture and intellectual improvement of our sister Republic of Mexico. The good and brave of the world at large will recognize it as the climax of Republican Stability and Power; and as the divine harbinger of real happiness and social enjoyment to present and future generations, who do, and will, live, move, and have their being on the American Continent.

Mexico, thus reorganized and regenerated, the stars and effulgence of our united banners will be increased, and shine more brightly ; the executive power of our swords will be greater, and our noble armies more successful. The mode of worshipping our Creator will be unrestrained, and the support of the clergy optional ; free schools will be established, and education general. The science of our savans will flash across the ocean, and light up the darkness of the Old World. The designs of our mechanics will increase; and their operations astonish all Europe. Republican Institutions will grow and flourish like the Tree beside the river of waters—Mexican and American territories will tremble with the tread of their common progeny ; and the transcendental glory of the American Mind will cover and irradiate the whole land. The rich and inexhaustible products of our soil will clothe, feed, and give life and sustenance to every nation, and fill the coffers of the world. The Doctrine of Monroe will be permanently established throughout the American Seas, Gulfs and Continents, and by our united power we shall effectually, and for ever resist and overcome, all political and monarchial combinations that seek a foot-hold this side the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans ; and thus we shall become a Pillar of Fire to direct oppressed humanity to the goal of a mundane heaven—and to the full enjoyment of Equity, Liberty and Republicanism.

LANCLOT H. EVERITT, M. D.

NEW ORLEANS, March 18, 1864.

B.

To the President and Members of the D.: M.: D.: :

GENTLEMEN—In the stirring and extraordinary times in which we live, there is perhaps no question which demands more serious consideration at the hands of the American people than that first presented for their consideration by President Monroe in his seventh annual Message to the American Congress, and which has since been called the "Monroe Doctrine."

This doctrine or policy had its origin in considerations of the most vital importance, not only to our own nation, but also to our sister Republics of the American Continent.

We first find this policy shadowed forth, though but dimly, in the terse and comprehensive reasoning of Madison, Jay and Hamilton, upon the propriety of adopting our present Federal Constitution. Of course, in consequence of the multitude of questions which presented themselves to the minds of these great statesmen at that time, and from the fact that this was merely a question of policy to be considered after the permanent formation of the Government, but little was said upon the subject in their debates.

But the Government having been for several years in successful operation, and many of the Spanish colonies having triumphantly thrown off the monarchical yoke of their mother country, and adopted a form of government similar to and modeled after our own, and which form being entirely dissimilar and antagonistic to that of the governments of the Old World, it became necessary that a firm policy should be adopted by the Government of the United States as to European interference with independent American States. At that time the allied powers of Europe had interposed by force in the internal affairs of Spain on a principle satisfactory to themselves, and lest on the same principle, that interposition might be carried to a much greater extent, became a question of the most serious import to all independent powers, and especially to those whose form of government differed from those of Europe, hence the positive stand taken by President Monroe in shaping the international policy of our Government, which, it is needless to say, has met with almost universal sanction.

This doctrine is, therefore, in the language of that great statesman, as follows:

"In the wars of the European powers, in matters relating to themselves we have never taken any part, *nor does it comport with our policy so to do*. It is only when our rights are invaded, or seriously menaced, that we resent injuries or make preparation for our defence. With the movements in this hemisphere we are of necessity more immediately interested, and by causes which must be obvious to all enlightened and impartial observers. The political system of the allied (Euro-

pean) powers, is essentially different in this respect from that of America. This difference proceeds from that which exists in their respective governments.

" And to the defence of our own, which has been achieved by the loss of so much blood and treasure, and matured by the wisdom of their most enlightened citizens, and under which we have enjoyed unexampled felicity, this whole nation is devoted.

We owe it, therefore, to candor and to the amicable relations existing between the United States, and those powers to declare that we should consider any attempt on ~~their part to extend their system to any portion of this hemisphere, as dangerous to our peace and safety.~~

" With the existing colonies or dependencies of any European power we have not interfered, and shall not interfere. But with the governments who have declared their independence and maintained it, and whose independence we have, on great consideration, and on just principles, acknowledged, we could not view any interposition for the purpose of oppressing them, or controlling in any other manner their destiny, by any European power, in any other manner than as the manifestation of an unfriendly disposition toward the United States."

This has continued to be, and is to-day our international polity, and every candid mind will at once admit its soundness and its justness.

It is plain, at first glance, that this doctrine is based upon a rule of international law, which has been recognized by all writers and commentators upon the law of Nations, from Grotius down to the present time.

It is a rule of international law that the perfect equality and entire independence of all distinct States is a fundamental principle of public law. It is a necessary consequence of this equality, that each nation has a right to govern itself as it may think proper, and no one nation is entitled to dictate a form of government or religion, or a course of internal policy to another. No state is entitled to take cognizance or notice the domestic administration of another state, or of what passes within it as between the government and its own subjects.

See Grotius, *de juri belli et pacis*, b. 1, c. 3, sec. 8; Vattel *droit de gens*, b. 2, c. 4, sec. 54.

Vattel observes, (and I do not think it out of place in this connection,) that the Spaniards violated all rules of right when they set up a tribunal of their own, to judge the Inca of Peru according to their laws.

Now, if he had broken the law of nations in respect to them, they would have had a right to punish him, but when they undertook to judge of the merits of his own interior administration, and to try and punish him for acts committed in the course of it, they were guilty of the grossest injustice.

The justice of this doctrine of Vattel meets the approbation of Chancellor Kent, than whom we have never had an abler commentator of law in this country. This, I believe, was the first gross outrage or violation of the right of national independence on this continent, unless we choose to go into the discussion of mat-

ters pertaining to the Indians of the continent of North America, which I deem foreign to the question under consideration.

There is also another principle of the law of Nations which stands in close connection with the Monroe Doctrine, which is, that "a rational fear of an imminent danger is a justifiable cause of war."

In regard to the justice of the Monroe Doctrine, I deem it almost unnecessary to make any remarks, all reasoning minds will certainly endorse it.

Have not the European powers ever sedulously guarded what they term the "Balance of Power in Europe?"

Have we not the same right to guard our interests and shape our policy in America? <

Suppose that the United States, or any other American power, should now interfere in the discordant affairs of Denmark or Schleiswig-Holstein, for the avowed purpose of establishing and maintaining a Republican form of government, would not every European nation deem that a sufficient cause for a declaration of war?

And should France, a nation which of late years can boast of but little more stability (if any) than our sister Republic of Mexico, which she now by force assumes to dictate to, and to rule; I say, should France again be plunged into revolution, the fires of which now smoulder among her population and in her council halls, and which, I might almost say, is her normal condition, would we not have as much right to interfere, to interpose and dictate to the French people as they have to impose their form of government, and their religion, upon any American nation?

I cannot but believe that every act of such interposition is only the effect of despotic power and overweening ambition, which must sooner or later overleap itself.

I cannot believe that such atrocious conduct can ever find a sanction in the hearts of a virtuous and enlightened people.

When we contemplate the unjust and unholy war now being waged by France against the Republic of Mexico, and in such shameful bad faith by France, who claims to be the "glass of fashion, the seat of learning, and the school of etiquette;" a nation ranked as one of the most civilized and enlightened nations of the globe, we are almost forced to the conclusion that the world is relapsing into the days of barbarism, when nations went to war for the sake of plunder and rapine, and when every stranger was considered an enemy, and when prisoners of war were put to death or sold into slavery.

S. G. HAMILTON,
Attorney at Law.

NEW ORLEANS, March 18, 1864.

To the President and Members of the D.: M.: D.:

GENTLEMEN—It becomes the imperative duty of a nation, as well as an individual, to preserve life, when menaced. Self-preservation is a principle more firmly rooted than any other that governs our actions. It is the controlling influence, displacing, for the time, all others. It matters not whether we, as a nation, or community of individuals, are threatened from without by hostile invasion of a foreign power, or from within, by internal broils and dissensions; directly, by invasion of our own soil, or indirectly, by the armed occupation of a neighboring and sister republic. It is sufficient for us to know that we are in danger of destruction in any of the ways mentioned to arouse the most active principle possessed by us as a people.

If we are directly assailed, by internal enemies or external foes, we quickly remedy the disease by promptly applying the cure—a speedy destruction of our opponents. If we are indirectly, covertly assailed by foreign forces endeavoring to wrest our friendly neighbor's territory from them, it is our duty, equally as well as our inclination, to hasten to the aid of the patriots of our sister republic and to stand by her as long as an armed foe treads her soil, except it be as a captive. In this we strictly obey the patriotic injunction to

“Strike for our altars and our fires,
Strike for the green graves of our sires,
God and our native land.”

We, the people of the United States, have not left our intended action on this vital principle to any ambiguous interpretation. It has been authoritatively declared, in terms precise and plain, that no foreign power whatever shall interfere in the concerns of any nation on the American Continent, while the United States has the power to strike a blow to prevent it. It has been distinctly announced that any attempt of this kind would be considered as an aggression to be repelled by every means known to us, including an appeal to arms. We have solemnly declared that we will maintain the integrity of our Union, and the right of the people of this American Continent to arrange their own domestic concerns, as long as a drop of blood remains to be shed, or a cent of treasure to be expended. The embodiment of this principle is known as the “Monroe Doctrine.”

The particular occasion which called forth this doctrine is related, in his usual felicitous style, by Quackenboss, in his History of the United States, pp. 394 and 395. After promising that the South American provinces had followed the example

of the North American Colonies and asserted their independence, he states, "While the struggle was pending, Clay, who sympathized deeply with the oppressed provinces, strove with his transcendent eloquence to induce Congress to recognize their independence. His efforts at first failed, as Congress distrusted their success; but his speeches were read at the head of the patriot armies, and encouraged them to persevere in their struggle for liberty. At length, in March, 1822, the bill was passed with but one dissenting voice. The President heartily joined in the recognition of their independence, and in the following year went so far as to declare in his Message, that 'the American Continents were thenceforth not to be considered as subjects for future colonization by any European power.'"

We presume this extract, from a standard author, is sufficiently luminous, and we therefore pass from a historical review of the subject.

We now proceed briefly to inquire whether any reason exists to remind us of our bounden duty to stand by this doctrine. Is this doctrine defied, rejected, mocked, scorned and spit upon by France? Let the presence of her armed cohorts on the soil of Mexico reply. While internal foes essay our annihilation, are there no insidious attempts from without, no advances to ensure our speedy and complete overthrow? Let the blood of our slain Mexican brothers answer. Does it not cry aloud to us to avenge their fall, martyrs to their country's honor and the integrity of the North American Continent? Nobly they have stood on the threshold and met the foe, who seeks to wade through their blood to the heart of this great republic. As Leonidas stood, with his heroic band, at the Pass of Thermopylae, so stands the small army of Don Benito Juarez to oppose the hirelings of Napoleon III. If an easy conquest is confidently anticipated, that host now so exultant may yet realize that

"That bright dream was their last,"

when they undertook to enslave a free people. Our compatriots know full well that

"They who would be free, themselves must strike the blow,"

and right well are they performing their part.

In conclusion—is there no way to lend a helping hand to our suffering and oppressed brethren of Mexico? Are we to stand idly by while this great contest goes on of might against right? Are our neutrality laws, or any other parchment obstacle, to prevent us from flying to the assistance of our neighbor—to prevent us from performing a duty to our God, our country and our friends? Even now, Mexico may be almost in the throes of mortal agony preceding dissolution, and yet we tarry. Let it not be said that we have stricken cowardice from our vocabulary, because we deem it included in prudence; let us be up and doing. Let every one who values life or liberty as a freeman should, who would see his country safe from foreign aggressions buckle on his armor. The swords of Mexico are keen;

they bear on their blades that high and chivalric motto, characteristic of the people :

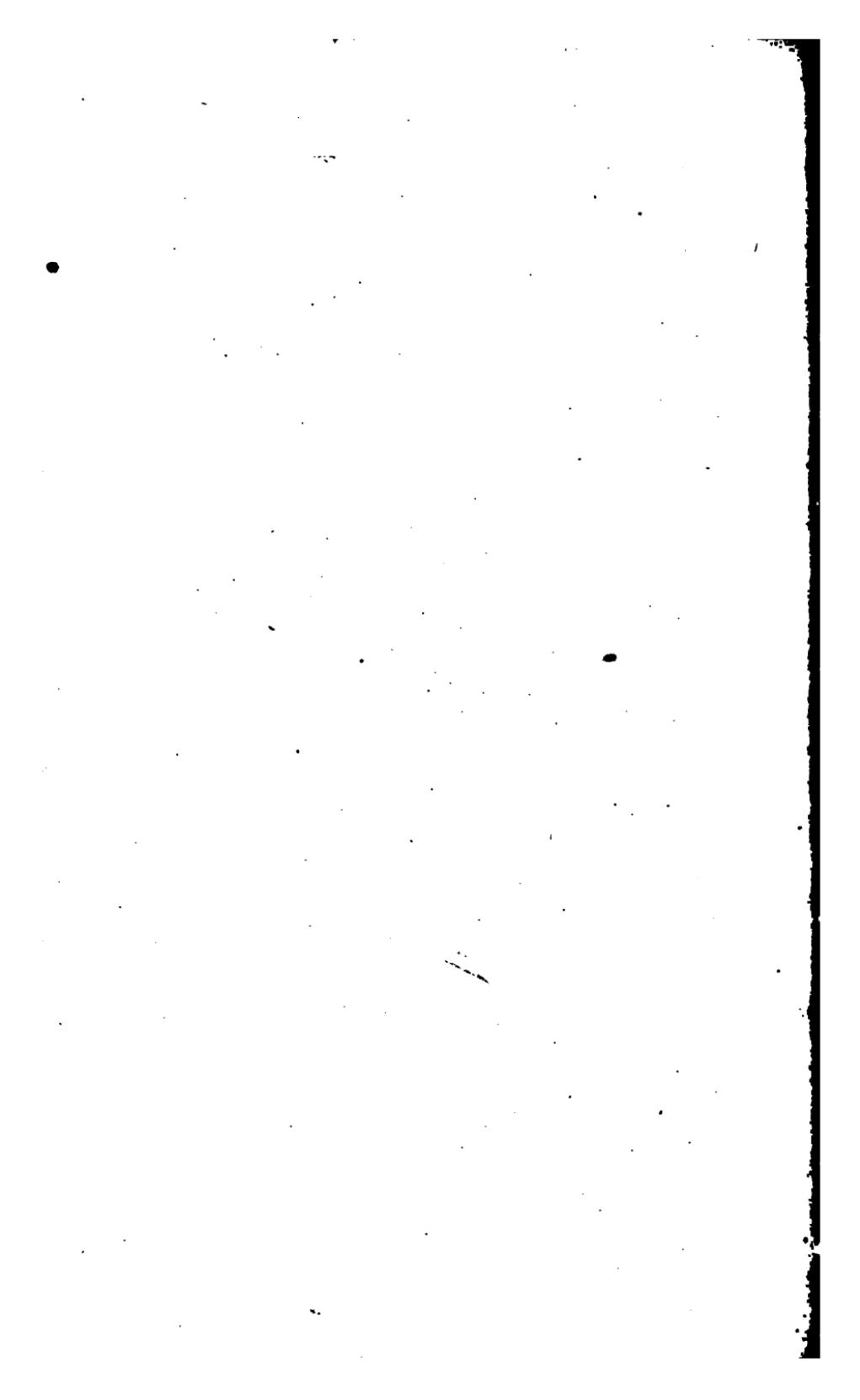
“ No me saques sin razon, ni me embaines sin honor.”

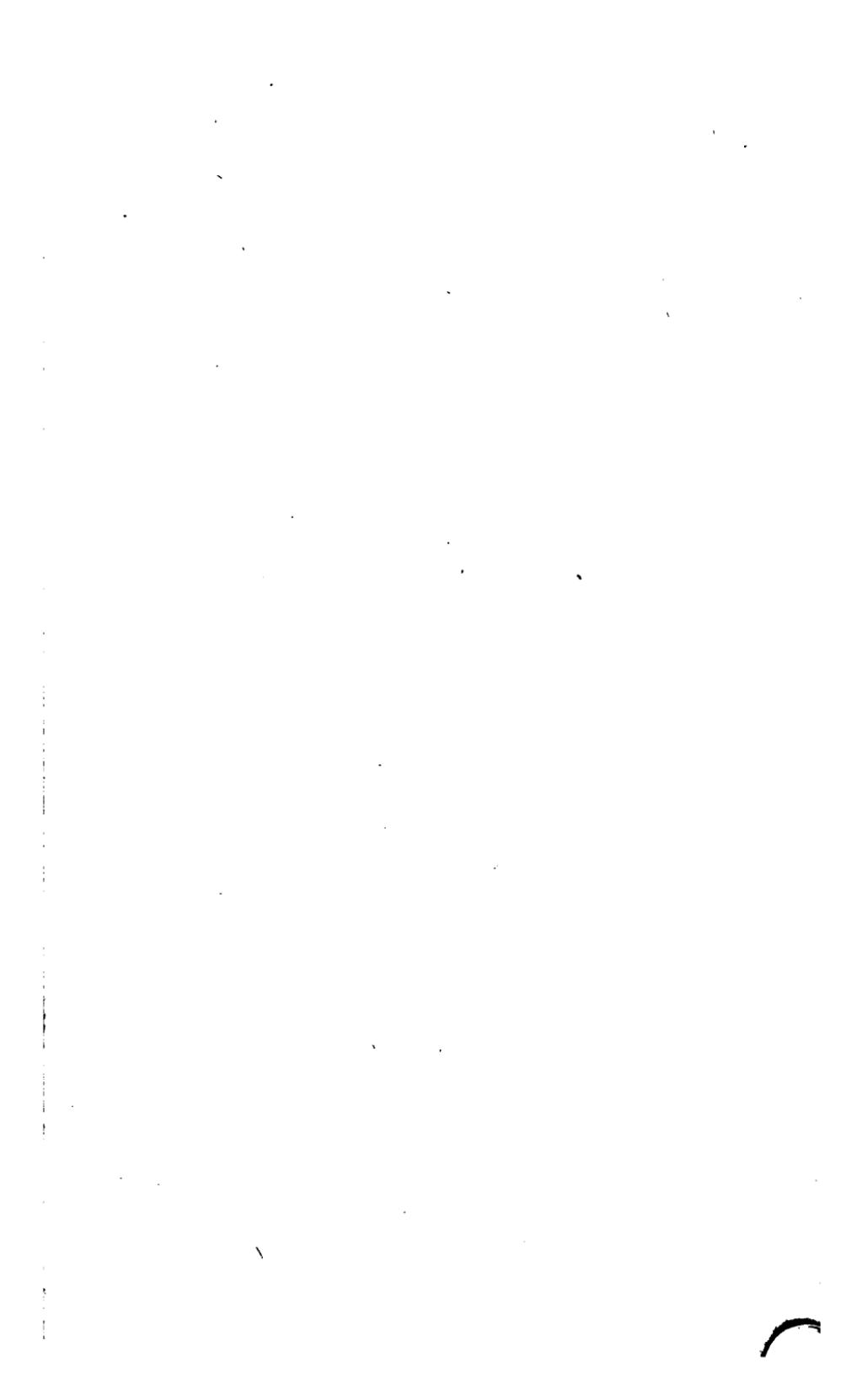
Ours be the task to use them.

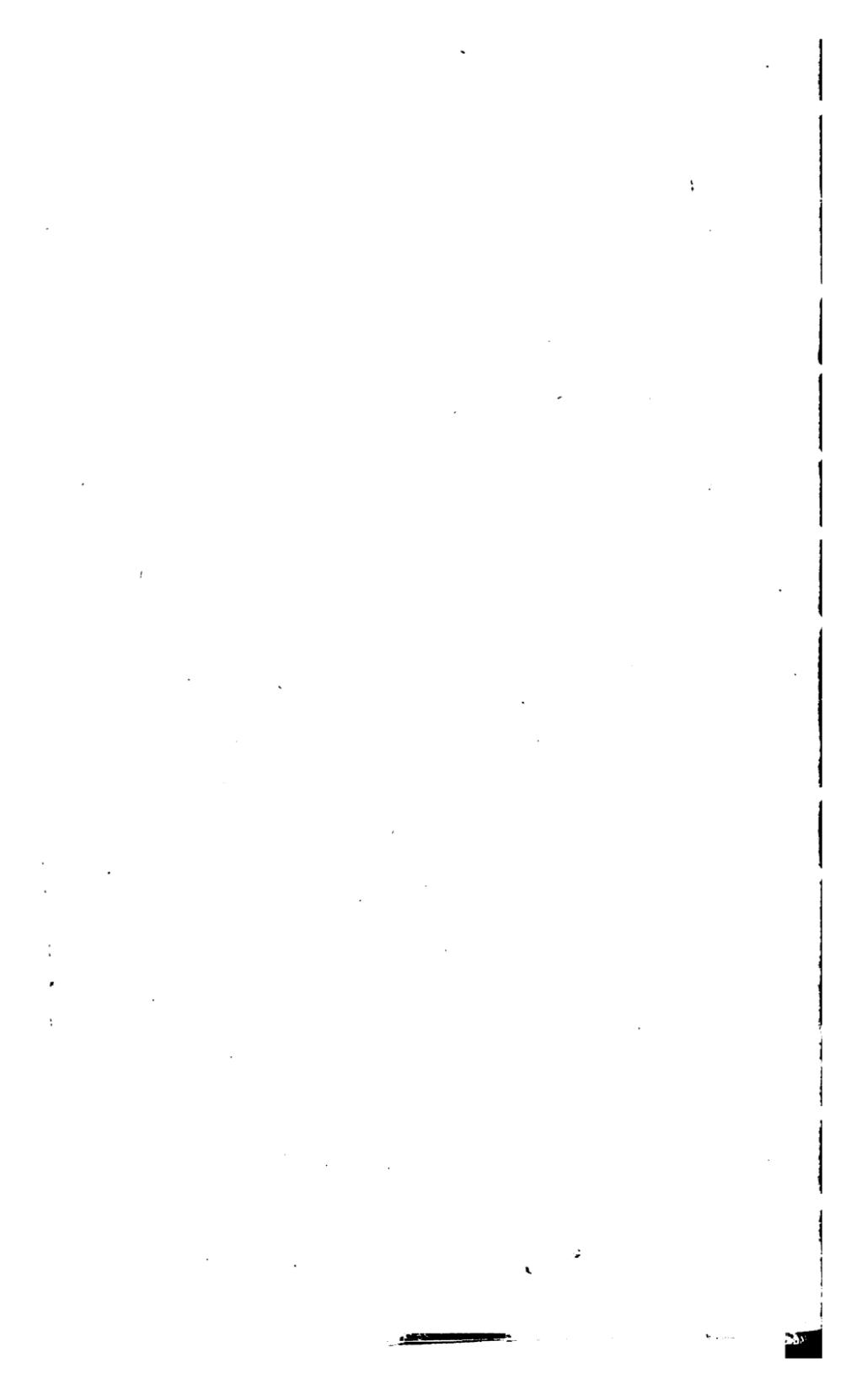
“ Wha will be a traitor knave ?
Wha can fill a coward’s grave ?
Wha sae base as be a slave ?”

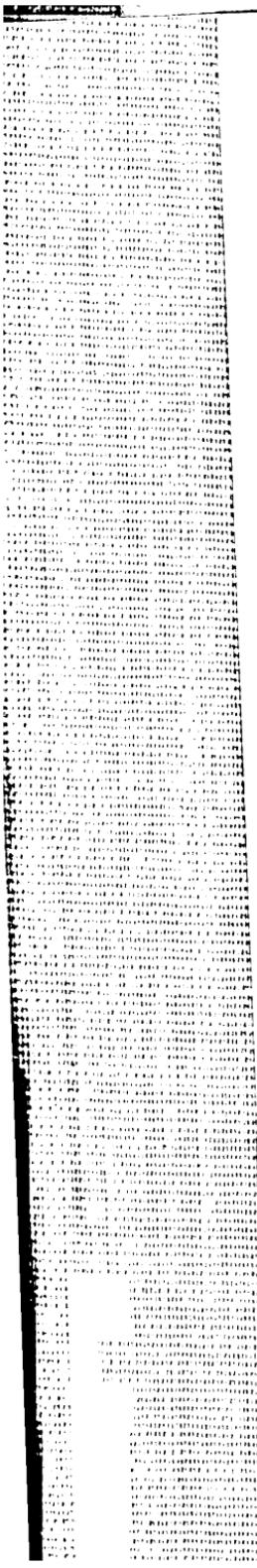
G. W. REYNOLDS,
Grand Lecturer of the I. O. of U. M.

NEW ORLEANS, March 18, 1864.









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